

(KEYWORD, SUMMARY, AND DIGEST as amended by Senate committee amendments)

BOARDS/COMMISSIONS: Provides for the abolition of certain boards and commissions.

Proposed law provides for the abolition of certain boards, commissions, political subdivisions, authorities, and like entities; in some cases also abolishes the functions and responsibilities of the entity; in other cases provides that some other person or entity is responsible for the functions and responsibilities of the abolished entity, all as follows:

Aquaculture Coordinating Council: Present law creates the council to work with the commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry to implement and manage a unified program for overseeing and coordinating modern, sustainable aquacultural production in La. Proposed law abolishes the council and its duties and provides relative to the duties of the commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry and the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries with respect to aquaculture. Provides relative to the definition of "private pond", "aquaculture", "aquatic Livestock" and "domesticated organism".

Financial Literacy and Education Commission: Present law creates the commission to develop and implement a state agency to promote the financial literacy and improve the financial education of La. citizens. Proposed law abolishes the commission and its functions.

Advisory Panel on the La. Teachers' Homebuyer Program: Present law establishes the panel to help the State Treasurer oversee and administer a program designed to attract teachers to poor or rural areas of the state. Proposed law abolishes the panel and transfers its responsibilities to the State Treasurer. Retains the program.

La. Geography Education Initiative Program Council: Present law establishes the council to help create a program to promote the value and importance of geography in La. schools. Proposed law abolishes the council and transfers its responsibilities to the superintendent of education.

Atchafalaya Basin Advisory Committee: Present law creates the committee to advise on the implementation of the Basin master plan, the annual Basin plan, and the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System. Proposed law abolishes the commission and its functions.

La. Advisory Committee on Midwifery: Present law creates the committee to advise the La. State Board of Medical Examiners relative to the practice and regulation of midwifery. Proposed law abolishes the committee and its functions.

Lincoln Parish Reservoir Authority: Present law creates the authority to create, regulate, and manage recreational facilities, water conservation, and reservoirs created by the authority. Proposed law abolishes the authority and its functions.

School Health Advisory Board: Present law creates the board to develop a standard health form for use in all city, parish, and other public school systems. Proposed law abolishes the board and its functions.

Hurricane Katrina Memorial Commission: Present law creates the commission to make recommendations for an appropriate memorial to commemorate those who lost their lives in La. in Hurricane Katrina. Provides that the commission terminates July 1, 2010. Proposed law removes provisions for the board and its functions from the statutes.

Women's Health Commission: Present law creates the commission to educate the public relative to women's health and to advise DHH relative to the availability of and access to health and social services for women. Proposed law abolishes the commission and its functions.

Silver Alert Steering Committee: Present law creates the committee to study and make recommendations to the legislature relative to public alerts for missing elderly and mentally impaired persons. Proposed law abolishes the committee and its functions.

La. Infrastructure Bank: Present law creates the bank to facilitate providing funds to municipalities, other political subdivisions, and other public entities for the planning, designing, construction, and maintenance connected with infrastructure programs. Proposed law abolishes the bank and its functions.

La. Music Commission: Present law creates the commission to promote and develop popular commercial music and its related industry. Proposed law abolishes the commission and its functions.

Commission on Law Enforcement Services for the Elderly: Present law creates the commission to promote a coordinated effort among law enforcement and social services agencies to stem the tide of violence against senior citizens and support media and other strategies aimed at increasing both public understanding of the problem and the senior citizens' skills in preventing crime against themselves and their property. Proposed law abolishes the commission and its functions.

Interpreter Certification Board: Present law requires the La. Commission for the Deaf to create this board to make recommendations to the commission regarding the denial, suspension, or revocation of interpreters' certificates. Proposed law removes provisions for the board and its functions from the statutes.

Nursing Home Quality and Efficiency Board: Present law creates the board and charges it with developing recommendations for programs designed to promote quality care and increase efficiency and to encourage nursing homes to operate at an occupancy level of 95%. Provides that present law expires on June 30, 2008. Proposed law removes provisions for the board from the statutes.

State Bond and Building Commission; the Capital Construction and Improvement Commission; and the State Building Authority: Present law creates the entities to manage specified bond issues and the capital projects associated therewith. All such bond issues and projects have been resolved or completed. The State Bond and Building Commission and the Capital Construction and Improvement Commission were previously abolished and their functions transferred to the Dept. of the Treasury. Proposed law abolishes these entities and their functions and removes statutory provisions for them.

La. School Asbestos Abatement Commission: Present law creates the commission to recommend rules and regulations concerning asbestos abatement to the Dept. of Environmental Quality. Provides that the commission shall dissolve no later than Jan. 1, 1986. Proposed law removes provisions for the commission from the statutes.

South Central Regional Transportation Authority: Present law creates the authority as a nonprofit corporation to construct a tollway from Port Fourchon to Gramercy. Proposed law abolishes the authority and its functions.

Rural Health Care Authority: Present law provides for the authority to take necessary actions to increase the number of primary care physicians serving rural Louisiana. Present law abolishes the authority. Proposed law removes provisions for the authority from the statutes.

Proposed law removes certain statutory references to the Regional Transit Authority.

Effective July 1, 2010.

(Amends R.S. 3:559.3, 559.6, 559.8(A), (B), and (C)(intro. para.), 559.9(A) and (E), 559.11, 559.12(13), and 559.13(C), (D), and (F), R.S. 17:427.4(A)(2)(c) and (d), (B), and (C), 2902(1)-(3), 2912(A)(intro. para.) and (B)(intro. para.), and 2913, R.S. 30:2000.2(7) through (10), 2000.3(B), and 2345, R.S. 33:9039.56(B), and 9039.125(B), R.S. 36:101(C)(3)(a)(ii), R.S. 37:3241, R.S. 39:333.1(E) and the heading of Chapter 3-A of Title 39 of the La. R.S. of 1950, R.S. 46:2356(A)(1) and (9) and (B), R.S. 51:938.1(D)(8), and R.S. 56:8(104), 306.4(D), 327.1(B)(1), 356, 411(B) and 415; repeals R.S. 3:559.4, 559.5, 559.7, and 559.14, R.S. 6:1371-1375, R.S. 15:1231-1237, R.S. 17:427.4(A)(2)(e) and (D)-(G), 2902(4), and 2911, R.S. 25:315-318 and 1301-1307, R.S. 30:2000.2(11) and 2000.8, R.S. 36:4(B)(1)(o), 109(H), 259(D), (M), (V), and (II), 478(G), 509(F)(6) and (7) and (U), 629(R), 769(F)(1) and (3), and 919.7, R.S. 37:3214(15) and 3242, R.S. 38:2431-2439 and 3087.281-3087.295, R.S. 39:452-456, 65.1-465.8, 466.1-466.7, 1407, and 1409, R.S. 40:5.12, 1235(A)(7), 1300.241, 1300.242, 2009.24, R.S. 40:2198-2198.6, and 2529, R.S. 46:2352(7)(c), R.S. 48:2041-2046, R.S. 51:3111-3115, and R.S. 56:306.4(D) and (356))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs to the original bill

1. Removed the following from the bill thereby retaining their existence: Catfish Promotion and Research Board; Fireman's Supplemental Pay Board; Physician Assistants Advisory Committee; Advisory Committee on Polysomnography; Uniform Electronic Local Return and Remittance Advisory Committee; Ground Water Management Advisory Task Force.
2. Added the following to the bill thereby abolishing them or removing provisions for them from the statutes as more specifically described above: La. Music Commission; Commission on Law Enforcement Services for the Elderly; Interpreter Certification Board; Nursing Home Quality and Efficiency Board; State Bond and Building Commission; Capital Construction and Improvement Commission; State Building Authority; La. School Asbestos Abatement Commission; South Central Regional Transportation Authority; Rural Health Care Authority.
3. Added provisions clarifying responsibilities of the Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry and the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries with respect to aquaculture as necessitated by the abolition of the Aquaculture Coordinating Council.

House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill.

1. Removed the following from the bill thereby retaining their existence: the Ambulance Standards Committee and the Compensation Review Commission.
2. Added the Hurricane Katrina Memorial Commission, which terminates on July 1, 2010.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs to the reengrossed bill.

1. Adds definition of "aquaculture" to mean any activity associated with the production of fish in privately owned waters or ponds as defined in present law.

2. Adds definition of "domesticated aquatic organism" to mean all domesticated fish as defined in present law and any aquatically raised fish, except aquatic livestock.
3. Adds definition of "private pond" for purposes of proposed law.